GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3406
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2004
HIKE IN WATER CHARGES BY DJB
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Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Jal Board has decided to raise the water charges in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether 3-4 years back the DJB had, on payment, installed new meters which were to be maintained by them but most of these meters have gone out of order and the DJB has been sending ad hoc bills without any readings for the past several years;

(d) if so, whether the DJB proposes to replace/repair those meters as per the original arrangement;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether in several independent self-occupied houses there are more than one meters even though there is only one family with a common water tank;

(g) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken in the matter; and

(h) the measures taken to plug the leakage of water, improve the water distribution transmission system, check the usage of domestic water supply and augment the water to meet the shortages in Delhi?

Answer

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. The Delhi Jal Board (DJB) has informed that the water tariff was last revised during the year 1998-99. Since then the cost of operation and maintenance of water and sewerage plants, infrastructure, laying costs, raw water and power have increased. The tariff has been revised to rationalize it, introduce demand management and to some extent bridge the gap between expenditure and income.

(c)to(e): The DJB had provided new water meters to the consumers which are maintained by them. The repairing of water meters is a continuous process and the water meters are repaired/replaced periodically. In case of non-functional meters, the DJB calculates the water charges on the basis of average consumption.

(f)&(g): It has been informed by DJB that there is no ban on providing more than one water meter in a house.

(h): The DJB has taken the following measures to plug the leakage of water, improve the water distribution transmission system, check the usage of domestic water supply and augment the water to meet the shortage in Delhi:-

1) DJB has a Leak Detection Cell for pro-actively detecting leakages in the system.

2) Public awareness campaigns/training programmes in various schools of Delhi.
3) Replacement of old water lines.

4) Bulk water meters being installed at various pumping mains/distribution mains to determine the actual water supply compared to the actual billing.

5) To augment the water supply in Delhi, following steps have been taken:

i) Construction of 140 Million Gallons per Day (MGD) Water Treatment Plant at Sonia Vihar.

ii) 40 MGD Water Treatment Plant at Nangloi has been commissioned.

iii) Construction of Parallel Lined Channel from Munak (Haryana) to Haiderpur Water Treatment Plant which will save about 80 MGD of water.

iv) Construction of 20 MGD Plant at Bawana.

v) 20 MGD Plant at Okhla and 40 MGD Plant at Dwarka has been planned.

6) DJB also proposes to recycle backwash water and treat it for drinking purpose. 45 MGD water could be recovered under this scheme.